

SDMS# 88206380

Department of Health Services

SFUND RECORDS CTR
3737-90060

memorandum

To : Dawn Casteel

Date : 19 May 1980

Subject: Area 3--
Parr-Richmond Terminal
(entrance at 600 S. 4th S
Richmond CA)

From : Ed. Ochi/Debbie Inouye

Area 3 has had several occupants which have had problems with hazardous materials. One company, Universal Pigment and Chemical Company, had problems with the spillage of acid wastes produced during the manufacture of Napalm (RWQCB records). Another, United Heckathorn/Chemwest Inc. processed various agricultural chemicals, fertilizers, fungicides, and insecticides on the site, including DDT, Malathion, Phosdrin, and Dieldrin. Both Fish and Game and RWQCB files indicate that the company was extremely messy; they were convicted twice of illegal discharge of DDT wastes into the ship channel adjacent to the property.

A drive-by on 05.01.80 showed that the property is presently occupied by the Parr-Richmond Terminal Company. The buildings that United Heckathorn have been torn down and the area is now a dirt lot probably used for ship unloading and/or dismantling. There are several large discolored spots in the dirt, but we were unable to examine them as we were asked to leave by the security guard on duty in the area. He did, however, comment that he had worked in the area for some time (since 1944), that United Heckathorn had run a sloppy operation, and that you could still smell the chemicals in the area they used to occupy.

Proposed Course of Action--An aerial photo of the area should be obtained to aid in the location of buildings formerly located on the site and to possibly help identify the source of the soil discolorations observed (this is not absolutely vital, though). Parr-Richmond Terminals should be contacted to obtain permission to go on-site. Once permission is obtained, the area should be examined and soil samples should be taken. The samples will then indicate the proper course of action for the area. (A formal interview of the security guard should also be considered, but only as a last resort, as he didn't seem to be of that much value to the project--most of his information was rather vague reminiscing.)---Laura concurs with this course of action.